

- 1) **SOW Paragraph 2.1.3.3 states that a contractor "use an information management system, as specified by the government, to share common-user matter across sites, with associate contractors, and with external agencies." Can you please provide specifications and requirements/interface documentation on this information management system that you intend to specify?**

The information management system currently consists of network-accessible drives and HTML documents accessible through an intranet. Future plans include the implementation of a Central Data Library accessible from any internet connection.

- 2) **What does the term STEC stand for?**

The Space Test and Engineering Contract (STEC) is the contract for SMC Det 12/VO operations and mission-specific software/database engineering. The EDS and the STEC contractors work side by side at the RSC and at CERES. The STEC does not support the Deployables or Camp Parks organizations.

- 3) **Are Aerospace personnel on-site?**

Yes, located with the government staff at RSC and CERES but not at Deployables or Camp Parks.

- 4) **At the RSC and CERES you refer to strings of equipment. What do you mean by string?**

A string is the set of resources (equipment and software) required to run one real-time contact.

- 5) **Will software development be required on EDS?**

Yes, there will be software development, but not large-scale coding of entire Satellite Ground Control System functions. Most EDS in-house-developed code will be scripts and smaller programs required to integrate the larger Commercial Off The Shelf (COTS) software products. For Camp Parks Communications Annex software development of automated test routines is required for use during Initial On Orbit Test & Evaluation. These routines currently are based on requirements for DSCS Initial On Orbit Test & Evaluation and are written in Visual Basic. The capability to develop automated instrument control routines based upon customer test plans is required.

- 6) **What is the scope of EDS in establishing requirements and selecting new systems?**

The EDS Contractor will assist SMC Det12/VO in establishing solutions to new requirements. The Contractor will make a technical recommendation based on an evaluation of its own and other Contractors' products. The Government will make the final decision on which system to procure. More detail will be provide in the OCI clause in the upcoming RFP.

- 7) **Will you tell us percentage of contract value or headcount required for each location?**

No. The relative percentages and headcount will depend on the approach you select.

- 8) **SOW paragraph 4.1.4.1 states, "Integrate, install, and check out all new systems or modifications to systems and components as required, in accordance with VO government engineering processes." What are the VO Government processes referred to in this paragraph?**

The government processes referred to are located in the bidder's library.

- 9) **What does the term "contract value" mean in reference to the Small Business Plan? Is it determined each year or based on the whole 5-year contract period?**

The Term "contract value" in this context means the entire value for the 5-year contract period.

- 10) **How are projects tracked and stasured? What key metrics are tracked and reported?**

Each project is broken down by task, and tracked by cost, schedule, and risk.

- 11) **Can you characterize the constraints in meeting mission/project demands in terms of schedule, cost, or personnel/facility resources?**

For CERES, it varies from project to project. Cost is always a major concern since we usually try to cover as many requirements as possible based on cost. Schedule or personnel resources are usually not as constraining.

Facility resource constraints are becoming a limiting factor.

For RSC, this is mission dependent since our funding is customer driven. It is often schedule dependent to meet launch and vehicle development dates. Meeting these dates requires the juggling of project priorities. Facility resource constraints are becoming a limiting factor.

For Deployables, schedule is the main concern due to uncertainty in launch dates. Facilities are limited, preventing needed growth in personnel to meet mission demands. Cost control is a major concern in keeping customer loyalty since Deployable efforts are fully reimbursable.

For Camp Parks, personnel resources are a concern due to the need to surge in response to customer requirements. Evaluating and tracking customer requirements is critical since both cost and schedule are sensitive to changes.

12) What is the current timetable for developing CERES into a full-featured backup facility to the RSC?

No specified timetable exists but will be developed as funds and resources allow.

13) What criteria are used in determining when to end operations on a particular mission?

The following are considerations used in determining when to end operations:

- Customer funding
- Vehicle Health
- VO's need for a Test and Checkout (TACO) satellite
- End of life plan
- Mission complete per customer/mission test plan and or direction